

## Jasper County Animal Control Board

### Public Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2016

Chairperson Pauline Boring called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m. Members in attendance were: Pauline Boring, Loretta Sipkema, Del Cleek, Shelter Director Mark Sinclair and Part Time ACO/Board Secretary Abbey Todd. There were approximately 7 citizens in attendance as well. Since there was not a quorum, no official business could be conducted.

Mark presented his directors report for those in attendance. He advised everyone that during the last commissioners meeting they did not approve the carrier/trap policy. They felt that there would be too much risk in trapping wildlife. They did approve the new hire for kennel attendant, the exercise yard, and new line for the fax machine. There were 24 volunteer hours for the month of March. The new hire is Laura Collins. She has agreed to come in twice a day on the weekends to tend to the animals. This is easy for her since she only lives 10 minutes away. The food storage shed is almost complete. The security light is in place, along with new bulbs in the existing exterior lights. Tags have been purchased to identify the carrier/traps. The donation list has been revised to better suit the needs of the shelter. Mark attended the euthanasia class and is now certified. New drugs have also been ordered, as the existing drugs were expired. Mark plans to train on the equipment soon, when weather permits. This includes the dart guns and catch poles. The shelter received donations from Wal-Mart, Culver 4-H group, and Pet Neutering and Adoption.

Pauline advised everyone that there is a change in the training that was scheduled for Mark. She explained that there are three stages of this particular class and he was mistakenly signed up for stage two. He is now signed up for the first stage, which will take place in October in Michigan. She also advised everyone that the next board meeting is May 9<sup>th</sup>. She finished by explaining that it was ACO appreciation week and handed Mark a card from the board. She expressed her praise and thanked the officers.

Citizen Comments: Carolyn Parks was the first person to make a comment. Her first question was why the commissioners did not approve the trap policy. Mark answered saying that they did not want animal control to be dealing with wildlife. Her next topic was about SNSI. She explained that they are funded through the pet friendly license plates and that qualifying shelters can get 10 spay/neuter certificates. Del asked which vets could be used. Pauline answered that Dr. Davis is on the list. Mark advised everyone that the shelter had already applied for it and that he believes the shelter can reapply every week. Pauline asked if the shelter could fax the application. Mark explained that it is online and Tricia sent one through the mail as well. Carolyn said that the shelter should be notified in two months and they also promote community cat programs (TNR) for 501c organizations or shelters. Pauline advised her that Jasper County does not have a TNR program. Carolyn then asked how many animals the shelter can hold. Mark replied that it depends on the weather. There are 9 kennels inside and 5 outside and about 21 cat cages.

Dena Damien was the next person to speak. She informed everyone that Amanda from Open Doors was on TV with a cat from Jasper County named Amelia. She thought that was very good for the shelter. She

went on to say that Terry Risner's sister is asking for donations for the K-9 unit. Dena was asking what they would need. Del replied saying that 4-H has given toys before and a lot of the times, the officer puts their own money toward the animals. Dena said she would check into it. Pauline asked if the county covered the vet costs. Del replied saying they may, but it becomes the officer's dog. The county doesn't pay for food or toys. Dena said she wasn't sure what they were asking for, in regards to vet bills, money, or toys. Del replied that she would need to talk to the officers. Pauline asked if Rob Cain was one of them. Abbey replied yes. Pauline advised that they should call the sheriff's office. William Spaulding advised everyone that there is a municipality in Indianapolis. The officer lives with the dog, but does not get the dog when they retire. Del replied that the community is trying to change that. Loretta replied that it is not a municipal dog until they want it. Del responded saying that every municipality is different and that even happens in the military as well. Loretta then asked about the vest and how it is paid for. Del said they are usually bought through donations. Dena asked Abbey if the cat got transport. She replied that he did. Dena asked if Desiree was able to do it. Abbey said no, they found another transport. Dena finished by saying that her organization is getting rid of some things and asked if the shelter was in need of carriers. Mark said the shelter can always use carriers and litter trays. Dena asked if they needed wire cages. Mark said not really, the shelter has close to 80 for emergencies. William replied that shelters have to have extra cages in case of a disaster.

Mark asked the board about their opinion on what to put at the bottom of the exercise fence. Pauline said he should get a 7 foot fence and bury 1 foot below ground. Del said he should use stone. Dena said they use patio blocks at their facility. They are about \$1.00 a piece and she has about 100 of them if he would like to use them. William said it would create more work to bury the fence and it would rust. It would need to be coated with something. Loretta asked how deep the blocks were. Carolyn thought about 6 inches. Dena said they are like patio pavers.

Dena finished by saying the state vet went out several times to see the horses that had been previously discussed. Del replied saying that there was hay out when she went and the pony would follow her around. The other horses were just lying down. Dena asked if Loretta had looked at them. Loretta said they didn't look bad. Del said they had water, shelter and hay. They were chewing on the branches and she didn't see a problem. She also said the manure looked fine as well. Del asked if anything had been written up. Dena replied that she wasn't sure and she just knows the state vet went out there.

Del motioned to adjourn the meeting and Loretta seconded. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.